ASSOCIATION OF NEW ZEALAND EMBROIDERERS' GUILDS INC

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June 2026 Memo #18

Well, my final memo as President starts with a boo, boo. I have just realised my May memo wasn't sent. I thought I was doing so well, being organised early leaving it in draft form till later in the month. Then things got hectic and my brain told me it was done but not until today did I realise it hadn't been sent. I am sorry but also shocked I wasn't asked for it. I guess no one missed it!



Conference is only 2 weeks away and you will receive one final newsletter before it begins reminding you of all the important things you need to remember. I'm getting nervous and excited about the week ahead. I thank the committee for the amazing amount of work they have done to pull this biannual event together. It's not been easy, but they have done a fabulous job – *Thank you.*

Reminder - Are you thinking of being a volunteer at Conference – it's not too late? If you think this is something you'll like to help with, please contact Sandra Hall sandrahallsmocking@gmail.com

Sponsorship:

In my last memo I let you know what sponsorship had been received and for those who have come forward since then thank you so much. The response has been greatly appreciated, and we are much closer to our target than we were – *Thank you*

This memo seems to be all about *Thankyou's.*

Funding Application:

At the end of May the Association had the opportunity to apply to Creative NZ for funding toward the running of our conferences. In the past our only pathway to funding assistance was to apply directly to the areas where conferences were being held. This became difficult because we moved around and the

Association covered the whole of NZ (we didn't have a home as such). I understand, before we changed the governance and structure of our Conferences the different hosts did apply individually. ANZEG now as the governing body can submit applications – let's hope we are successful in the future.

Because Creative NZ is New Zealand orientated our application focused on the professional development of our New Zealand Tutors and the importance of in-person attendance by members to conferences, that helps strengthen connections across Guilds, allowing members to recognise shared challenges and generate practical solutions together.

From the survey of which we had 350 responses, it was noted the main reason for unattendance was cost. If this funding is successful, we will be able to significantly reduce the costs of conference fees, which will be a direct benefit for our members. We on Executive are always thinking of ways to achieve this.

As our next event is not until 2028, it may be a while before this outcome is known, as there may be other applicants who's events are sooner and may get first priority but I am very hopeful, so let's all keep our fingers crossed.

President's Travel:

The final region for me to visit was Tararua and what a great time I had in Masterton at their Regional Retreat. Thank you Jo for being my chauffeur and room buddy and to Susan and Guilds for your hospitality. What a fun event you run.

The venue was perfect for your Retreat, and I see exactly why it would have fitted perfectly for the 2020 Conference – Covid has a lot to answer for. Maybe in the future you will consider it again.

Over the past 2 years I have really enjoyed my travels, met a lot of people, learned a lot about Aotearoa and the amazing people in our fraternity. I have been blown away by the knowledge, skill and passion of our people. Yes, I know we are all getting on in years, but let's try really hard to pass this knowledge on to these pretty clever young ones coming up. Be kind and patient with them, they are sponges, they soak up every bit of information they hear and they are our future.

If there is one thing I have realised, that's not to assume! We all need to share what we know, not once, twice but all the time, because you know, doesn't mean others do, tell them and if so tell them again. It's better to share twice than not all.

That's it from me, keep those needles threaded and fingers working, but most of all keep smiling, laugh and have fun with those you love.

I'll see you all in Palmerston North

Nga Mihi Nui



Some of the work that took my eye on my travels













